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Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-03

DODE-00 FEA-01 SAJ-01 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 MC-02 ERDA-05 /107 W
---------- 034412
R 191623Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 164
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 2553

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, IAEA, UR
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS AGREEMENT AT IAEA: SOVIET COMMENTS

REF: STATE 034345

1. EMBOFF FEB 19 MET WITH BYELOV, A COUNSELOR IN MFA'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DIVISION, TO PASS PRESS GUIDANCE AND DISCUSS QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTEL. BYELOV BRIEFLY PERUSED PRESS GUIDANCE AND SAID TI APPEARED, AT FIRST GLANCE, TO BE "USEFUL MATERIAL". HE ASKED WHETHER THIS SAME GUIDANCE WAS BEING USED IN BRIEFING CONGRESS. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT HE HAD NO FIRM INFORMATION, BUT ASSUMED THAT A MORE COMPLETE SET OF MATERIALS WOULD BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. BYELOV SAID THAT HE WOULD READ THE GUIDANCE MORE CLOSELY AND CONTACT US IF HE HAD QUESTIONS.
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2. BYELOV, IN ANSWER TO QUESTION RAISED PARA 3 REFTEL, SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NO INFORMATION THAT HE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS AGREEMENT WOULD BE RAISED IN A CONTENTIOUS OR ANY OTHER MANNER DURING THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING IN VIENNA. THE SOVIET DELEGATION, HE SAID, WOULD NOT EVEN MENTION THE AGREEMENT DURING PLENARY SESSINS OR IN ANY BILATERALS WITH NON-PARTICIPANTS IN THE AGREEMENT. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE TWO QUESTIONS ON THE AGENDA WHICH COULD DRAW THE AGREEMENT INTO THE DISCUSSION: THE FRG-IAEA-BRAZIL TRILATERAL AGREEMENT; AND THE BRITISH PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP IN IAEA A SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT FOR NON-NPT STATES WHICH WOULD TIGHTEN CONTROLS AND BRING THEM MORE INTO LINE WIT THOSE APPLIED IN NPT STATES.

3. BYELOV SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT REGARDS THE TRILATERAL AGREEMENT "ALMOST AS A PRECEDENT" BECAUSE IT IS THE FIRST SUCH AGREEMENT TO BE DISCUSSED AFTER SIGNATURE OF THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS AGREEMENT. HE ARGUED THAT THE TRILATERAL AGREEMENT DOES NOT IN ITS PRESENT FORM SATISFY ALL OF THE OBLIGATIONS IMPOSED BY THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIER ACCORD. THE LANGUAGE ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, HE SAID, WAS ESPECIALLY INADEQUATE.

4. BYELOV SAID THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION HAD NO SPECIAL VIEWS ON HOW CRITICAL DISCUSSION OF THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS AGREEMENT MIGHT BE HANDLED IF IT DOES ARISE. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE IN ADVANCE WHAT COURSE OF ACTION TO TAKE, AND SUGGESTED THAT CLOSE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE U.S. AND SOVIET DELEGATIONS WOULD GO FAR TOWARD DELAING WITH SUCH PROBLEMS.

5. WHEN EMBOFF, PER INSTRUCTIONS PARA 3 REFTEL, SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO BRIEF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL ON THE CONTENT OF THE GUIDELINES PAPER, BYELOV REPLIED THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY THE BRITISH EMBASSY THAT THE FRENCH HAVE ALREADY DONE SO, ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS. (FYI: UNFORTUNATELY, THE BRITISH EMBOFF RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH MATTERS IS OUT OF TOWN, AND WE CONFIDENTIAL

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ARE UMABLE TO CONFIRM BYLEOV'S UNDERSTANDING ON THIS POINT.)
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS, MEETINGS, PRESS CONFERENCES, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW02553
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760063-1038
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760235/aaaabeey.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 34345
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <30 MAR 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS AGREEMENT AT IAEA: SOVIET COMMENTS
TAGS: PARM, UR, IAEA
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Type: TE
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